

THE TIMES.

New Bloomfield, Dec. 11, 1877.

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THERE is but one cure for hard times and the sooner people recognize that truth the sooner our financial clouds will brighten with the sun of prosperity. Let every person set to work with a will to pay small debts and insist upon such self-denial as will enable him to pay as goes for all the wants of daily life. With such a rule in force "good times" will come again, and what is important for every one to understand is, that they will not come in any other way. It is needless to look to legislation for the good that all so much desire, when the only escape from the evils we suffer is within our own control. Let every person lay this truth to heart and act upon it and our word for it they will soon find that the gloom of night that now overhangs the financial affairs of the entire world will soon be brightened by the dawn of a prosperous day.

THE President's message is well received in England if we judge by the following extracts:

The Daily News, commenting on Mr. Hayes' message, says: "The message deals principally with the questions of the pacification of the country and the resumption of specie payments and on both these subjects Mr. Hayes expresses himself with good sense and good feeling."

The Times says: "Mr. Hayes has not disappointed expectation. His message gives no uncertain sound on the subject of currency legislation."

The Daily Telegraph says: "Notwithstanding the discouragement with which Mr. Hayes has been met, the prudent and firm position he has assumed in his message insures him the support of the wisest and best portion of his countrymen."

President Hayes' Message.

President Hayes sent his first message to Congress shortly after noon on Monday. He congratulates the country upon its bountiful harvests and makes an appeal to Congress to unite in an earnest attempt to secure a permanent pacification of the whole country. The following is an abstract of the suggestions made in the message.

The first subject that receives his attention is his southern policy. He justifies his action in removing the troops from the State House in Columbia and New Orleans on the ground of right, necessity and constitutionality. Of the effect of his Southern policy, the President says, that as far as he can now judge, it has been good; the Southern States are quieter and more prosperous than before; credit is better; industries are more thriving; especially is there an absence of those acts of violence which before were so common. And while he does not defend his policy, he seems to take pride in calling attention to what he considers its success.

The currency question receives considerable attention. He speaks of the resumption of specie payments as a matter of the greatest and most general importance to the people of the country, and necessary for the purpose of bringing our internal and foreign commerce into harmony with that of the rest of the world.

After a most anxious and careful examination, the President declares himself as more than ever confirmed in the opinion he expressed in his letter of acceptance and in his inaugural address, that the policy of resumption should be

pursued by every suitable means, and that no legislation that would retard or postpone it ought to be enacted. He believes that any wavering in purpose, or unsteadiness in methods, instead of relieving the country from any of the inconveniences attendant upon a return to specie payment would only aggravate and prolong the distress already caused by an irredeemable paper currency, and end in serious disaster and dishonor.

The President refers to the report of the Secretary of the Treasury and says: If Congress was favorable to resumption and ready to assist the Administration in bringing about the specie payments, some additional laws would be asked for; but as it is, the President agrees with the Secretary that resumption can be effected under the present laws by January 1, 1879, and also agrees to the wisdom of the policy of not asking for further legislation. The Secretary also holds that the resumption act of 1875 does not require the cancellation and destruction of the \$300,000,000 of United States notes which remain after the volume of the greenback currency has been reduced to that point, and that it may be left in circulation for a while, being always exchangeable, of course, at the sub-treasuries for gold coin. He holds the ground that both silver and gold ought to be utilized in the currency of the country; but he does not agree with those who would undertake to legislate that 90 or 92 cents worth of silver shall pass or be receivable in the place of 100 cents worth of gold. The public debt of the country was contracted in the money of the world and with the understanding that it should be paid, principal and interest, in money of this kind. He does not, therefore, favor any legislation that would force the creditors of the United States to receive in payment of what is due them, any silver currency worth less than par in gold.

Although the President is in favor of making silver a liberal subsidiary coin, with a legal-tender limit somewhat greater than at present, he is not in favor of making it an unlimited legal-tender.

He states his opposition to any proposition that Congress shall exercise the power given to it by the Constitution to coin money and regulate the value thereof in such a way as to swindle people. His remarks on this subject will meet very general approval, as they have the ring of true metal.

Upon the question of civil service reform the President reiterates the opinions expressed in his inaugural address. He makes no reference to the controversy that has arisen between the Senate and the Executive over the subject of appointments, nor is there anything in the message which evinces a disposition by the President to quarrel with the Senate or to interfere with the widest exercise by that body of the prerogatives which belong to it. While that portion of the message which relates to civil service reform is unequivocal in its language, the subject is not given as much prominence as might have been expected.

Of subjects connected with the foreign relations of the United States the Mexican border question is naturally given the most attention. The condition of affairs on the Rio Grande frontier, as shown by official reports received by the Administration is briefly described; and the considerations which led to the order to the commanders of United States troops to cross the river when in full pursuit of raiders, and punish them on Mexican soil, are recited.

While the President recognizes the delicacy of the position assumed by the Government by the issue of that order, and is not unmindful of the fact that it may lead to serious international complications, he defends it on the ground that in no other way could the lives and property of our citizens be protected. He disclaims any intention or desire, to provoke hostilities with the Mexican Republic.

The affairs of the War, Navy and Post Office departments are not treated of at much length in the message. The recommendations of the heads of these departments are generally approved.

The President does not think the aggregate of taxes should be increased, but thinks that amendments to the laws should be made. He says: "A tax on tea and coffee is shown by the experience, not only of our own country, but of other countries, to be easily collected without loss by undervaluation or fraud, and largely borne in the country of production. A tax of ten cents per pound on tea and two cents a pound on coffee would produce a revenue exceeding \$12,000,000 and thus enable Congress to repeal a multitude of annoying taxes yielding a revenue not exceeding that sum."

In treating of the subjects which come under the jurisdiction of the Interior Department deserved prominence is given in the message to the Indian question. The necessity of keeping good faith with the Indians is strongly emphasized.

The first step toward civilizing the Indians recommended is the discouragement of hunting by allowing to them

only a limited supply of arms and ammunition and persuading them to exchange their ponies for cattle. This, it is believed, will destroy or subdue their warlike spirit. As fast as the Indians give up hunting the President thinks they should be placed on a smaller number of reservations and taught agriculture and cattle raising; in teaching them the arts of peace, attention should be paid to the natural tastes of the Indians, and those who prefer cattle raising to farming should be allowed to choose their occupation. For the protection of the Indians the extension of the jurisdiction of the United States Courts and an Indian police composed of Indians are recommended.

The compulsory education of Indian children is also recommended. The farms supported by the Government, the President says, should be used for the instruction of youth in the schools, and the farmers should visit the farms managed by the Indians themselves and give them the advice they need. On the reservations Indian labor alone is recommended. The investigations into the conduct of Indian affairs which have been made by the present Secretary of the Interior are referred to and the good results of them mentioned. Legislation providing for the more certain discovery and prevention of abuses in the Indian Service is called for.

In the paragraphs of the message devoted to the District of Columbia the President recommends liberal appropriations for proper improvements. He believes Washington should be something more than a political centre, and he favors the establishment of a national university at the capital, endowed with sufficient funds to enable it to become the leading college of learning in the country.

THE REPORT of the Secretary of the Treasury is a strong document. His remarks upon resumption and upon the proposal to make silver a legal tender are in perfect accord with the suggestions made in the President's message. His appeal for the Resumption act could hardly be stronger. He shows conclusively that the course of trade, the bullion movement, and the increase of exports, has been constantly progressive since he first began to prepare for the enforcement of the act. He asks for some legislation relative to the status of legal-tenders after the day of resumption and is in favor of the retention of a considerable amount always in circulation as an assistance to the banks. He believes the present system the best yet devised, and has no doubt that the banks can be ready for resumption whenever the government is. He does not yet recommend any decrease of bank taxation. On the silver question the report is full and explicit. The coinage of the old silver dollar is recommended, but only as a token with limited legal-tender for account of the United States alone, and always redeemable in gold. The unlimited issue of subsidiary coinage is also favored.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 6, 1877.

Affairs at the Capital have been in an unsettled state for the last week or two, but now that the regular winter session of Congress is under way and the usually tedious fortnight of organizing has not got to be suffered, we are sort of settling down and getting used to things. The freshet of ten days ago set us all by the ears; then the Huron disaster put the city into a perfect whirl of excitement for several days; and the behavior of the Senate during the last few days and nights of the extra session was enough to unsettle a bigger world than this of the Capital City. The seating of Butler and Kellogg took much time and caused much disputing "among the Elders." Butler is a one-legged Confederate General, six feet tall and the possessor of strong, clear blue eyes. Kellogg looks little as he did when he entered the Senate 10 years ago a black-haired and heavily bearded man. His four years of gubernatorial perplexities have perceptibly aged him, as his silvery hair and thin face testifies. His sharp visage is now smoothly shaven.

An impromptu concert of a very high order occurred at the White House one evening last week. Miss Emma Thursby gave two of her musical performances in the city and, while here, visited the Executive Mansion with several members of her troupe. Mrs. Hayes had invited her and had invited several ladies and gentlemen to meet her. The guests were received in the Green Parlor, but when Miss Thursby came to sing the room seemed too small so the company repaired to the great East Room where the finest of music was rendered, much to the delight of those assembled. Mrs. Hayes is a most delightful hostess. With no apparent exertion she sees to it that each one of her guests, no matter how many are present, is comfortable and at his ease. No one is neglected where she is. Callers are received at any time, as they would be by any lady, and their dress and treatment is the same. When a person arrives, to call on Mrs. Hayes, he or she is

shown into a cloak room near the entrance where outer wrappings are laid aside, while, cards are taken in to the hostess. This is all the ceremony that is observed and this is simply done in lieu of an introduction. On the evening I have mentioned some Southern people who were at the White House expressed themselves as delighted to observe one of their own customs of other days in this; the black nurses and other domestics comfortably ensconced just outside the "company room" to see, hear and enjoy. As I have said, Mrs. Hayes spares no pains to make even the most humble about her comfortable and happy.

A movement is on foot petitioning Clara Morris to come to Washington and give a performance for the benefit of the Custer Monument. The petition is signed by President Hayes, many Congressmen and citizens.

Our Labor Exchange is still thriving. Among other helps it has received is one from the Agricultural Department that secures it the contract for making paper bags for seeds. Instruction is being given without charge, also, in the art of decorating china, in the hope of giving a class of women means thereby of earning a livelihood.

The very day President Lincoln was killed he signed the Custom House appointment of Kellogg, the newly seated Senator over whom such a squabble was indulged in last week. There are but two members of the Lincoln family now living. Mrs. Lincoln who is with her sister in Springfield, Illinois, and Robert, who is practicing law in Chicago. But few know or care anything of their whereabouts—so soon do people go out of sight and out of mind. Lincoln, as the Emancipation President is immortalized here by at least three statues; one on a high pedestal in front of the City Hall; one, by Vinnie Ream, which stands in the Hall of Statuary at the Capitol; and one, of bronze in Lincoln Square, that was paid for by contributions of the colored people alone—a magnificent thing. The two first mentioned are of white marble and life sized.

It is still sunny and bright, but the winter air is felt. The warm weather left with Thanksgiving day.

Miscellaneous News Items.

The suit of Jeff. Davis against the estate of his brother is pending in the Mississippi Supreme Court.

A national tournament of firemen, with prizes worth \$10,000, is looked for in Chicago next Sept.

The New Orleans "Democrat" will issue a three-cent edition now that the cent has been introduced in that city.

A cow was extricated from a Greenville (S. C.) well recently by slowly throwing in earth. The animal kept on top of the dirt until high enough to step out.

Ann Dechert has recovered \$1,750 from the city of Reading for the death of her husband, who walked into the canal at an unprotected place and was drowned.

On Tuesday a child in Allegheny was scalded by a pan of boiling water, sustained injuries which caused its death. Its mother was carrying the pan when the child ran against it, overturning it and receiving the contents over the shoulder.

Two widowers, of Perry county, Texas, have each a daughter, and each has married the other's daughter. The possible snarl in relationships in these families in the future is appalling in its magnitude.

The Raleigh (N. C.) "News" asserts that a dashing young hawk swooped down on the gilt vase on the spire of Christ church, in that city, mistaking it for a genuine rooster, and, grasping it in his talons, essayed to carry off his prize.

A Charleston (S. C.) paper speaks of a sale of farm lands in that vicinity, only two miles from the Northern railroad and Webbin river, and of excellent soil, 628 acres of which were sold for \$205,800 acres for \$220 and 100 acres for \$38, all half cash and the rest in one year.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., December 4. — At Lost Creek station, Philadelphia and Reading railroad, this afternoon, a coal train ran off the track and badly wrecked twenty cars, tore down the telegraph lines, completely demolished the passenger depot and did considerable damage to the freight depot. Several persons were injured by the mishap, but none seriously.

NEW LONDON, Conn., Dec. 3. — William Bogue, an employee of the Connecticut Valley railroad, was shot while on his way home this morning by a neighbor named Mahoney and died within an hour. Mahoney is described as a quarrelsome fellow and was under the influence of liquor at the time of the murder, for which there was no provocation.

It was claimed that William W. Randles, of Coschocton, Ohio, fell off the cars on a railroad bridge on April 13th, 1876, and was killed. The Union Central of Cincinnati paid a \$2,000 policy, but the Michigan Mutual refused to settle one for \$5,000, and began a search, which resulted in the arrest of Randles in Washington, Kansas, last week.

Whiskey Loving Congressmen.

Persons often wonder why such strange speeches are made in Congress. Perhaps the following will in part explain it.

WASHINGTON, December 4. — Mr. Price (Iowa) asked leave to offer a resolution reciting alleged charges that the nineteenth joint rule (which prohibits the sale of intoxicating liquors in the capitol building) was being violated, and instructing the officers of the house to enforce that joint rule.

The speaker said that as he believed the joint rule were still in force, he had endeavored to have the sale of liquor stopped, and that the keeper of the house restaurant had been notified that if it were not stopped he would violate his contract. He was entirely in accord with the resolution, though the officers of the house were in no wise to blame for the violation of the rule. The resolution was adopted.

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